

EDNET Faculty Training Workshop

A Scenario 4 U

A professional development Scenario is provided below. The process of the scenario is most important...not the specific content.

SCENARIO # 4

Culturally Sensitive Instructional Development

Your distance education coordinator at the district office is committed to design six telecourses to be delivered via live interactive videoconferencing (EDNET). The telecourses may be videotaped in hopes of leasing or selling them with complete study guides after they have been used and evaluated. The instructors (three Anglo males, one Hispanic female, one Native American female—Navajo, and one Asian female) who will be teaching these telecourses (Japanese, Culture of the Southwest, Spanish, Calculus, Biology, and English Literature) have all taught at least one live telecourse. All are experts in their subject areas as well as good instructors. The audience will consist of multi-national, multi-cultural, and multi-religious students. At least half of the students use English as a second language.

You are one of these instructors. You have been brought together with the others to explore how to develop telecourses for such a diverse audience. Meeting with you and teachers are members of the distance learning support team including the project manager, the head of the district's curriculum section, and two university consultants versed in television production and graphic design. The curriculum specialist is also experienced in evaluation techniques.

The project manager is aware that each of the telecourses will have to be very sensitive to the cross-cultural aspects of the teaching and course content as well as the verbal and non-verbal presentation. She has asked the teleteachers and support team, working as a whole, to identify what aspects of the telecourses need to be modified to be sensitive to these diverse audiences.

YOUR TASK: *What assumptions would you make and what would you recommend? Use the space below to list any notes or comments. You will have a one-minute presentation to make to our group. Good luck!*